

Pennsylvania Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel

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# Demonstrating TRIO's Effectiveness in a Climate of Funding Threats

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# Background

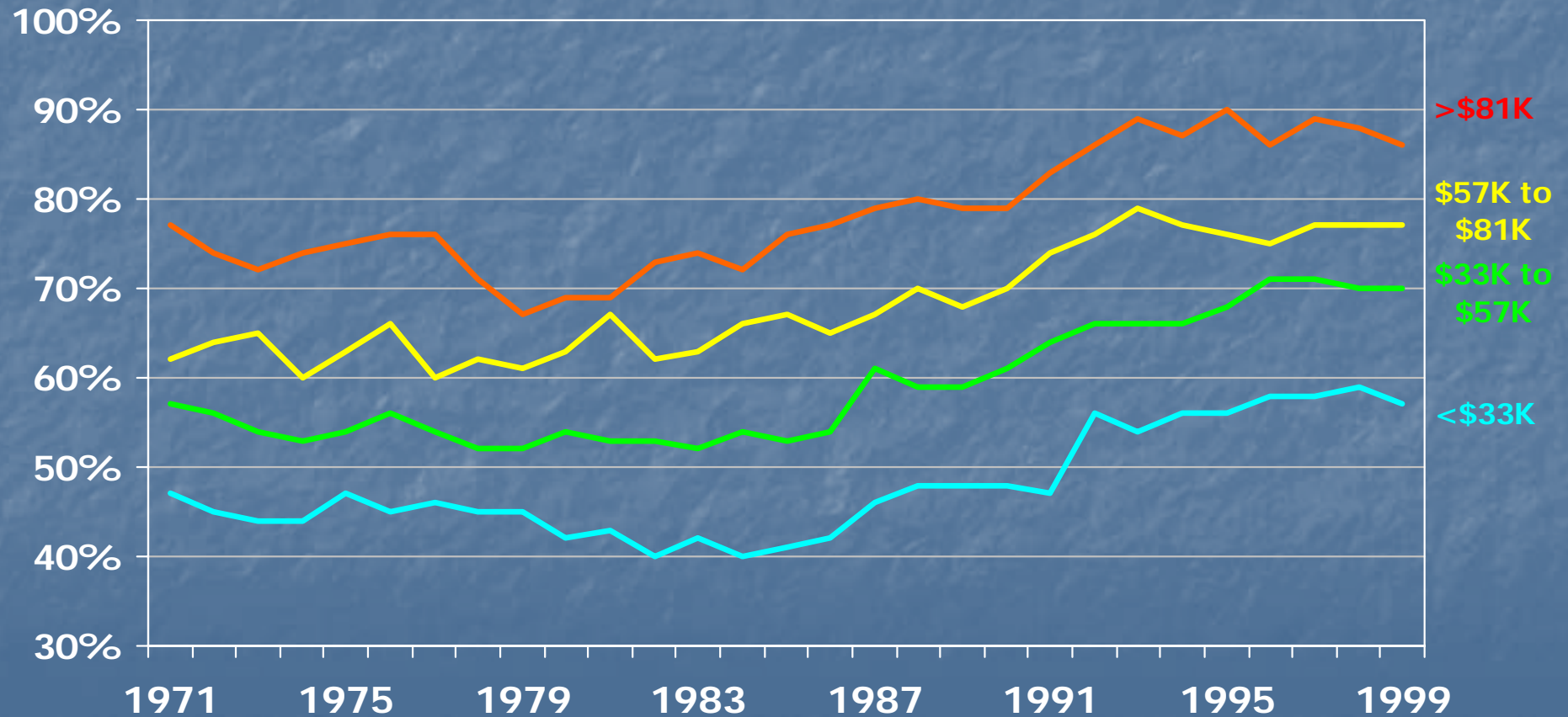
- Higher Education Act of 1965
  - Primary legislation authorizing federal support for higher education
  - Part of Johnson Great Society
  - Relevant sections
    - Title III – Aid to HBCUs, Tribal colleges, and institutions serving low-income students
    - Title IV – Student financial aid, TRIO
    - Title V – Aid to Hispanic-serving institutions
  - Reauthorized every five years

# TRIO programs

- 866,000 students
  - 67% from families with incomes below \$28K and neither parent a college graduate
  - 37% white, 35% African American, 19% Latino, 4% Native American, 4% Asian American
- 2,600 programs
- 1,000 institutions
- Fewer than 10% of eligible students are currently being served

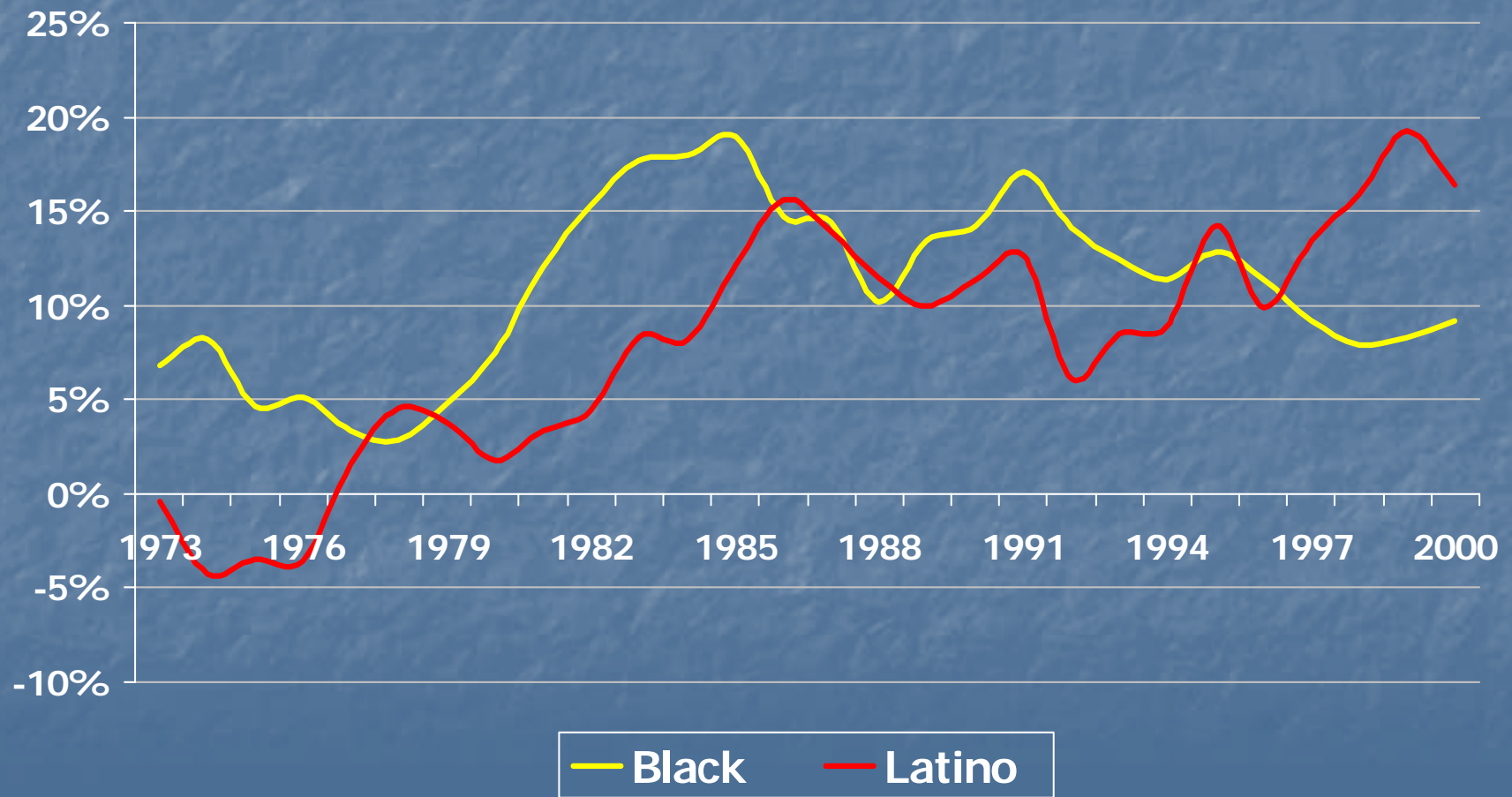
# Why is TRIO important?

College participation rates of unmarried 18-24 year old HS grads



# Why is TRIO important?

HS grads enrolling in college within 12 months  
Difference from white rate (3-year moving averages)



## Funding for major ED programs – FY 2005

- Pell, SEOG, CWS \$14 billion
- LEAP \$66 million
- Institutional assistance \$420 million
- Gallaudet & Howard \$346 million
- TRIO & GEAR-UP, CAMP \$1 billion
- Research and statistics \$257 million

Loans – off budget, totaled \$57 billion last year

# President Bush's budget for FY 2006

## ■ Eliminates:

- Upward Bound
- Talent Search
- Gear Up
- Perkins Loan
- Perkins Voc/Tech
- LEAP
- Byrd Honors Scholarship Program

US  
452,000 students  
\$464M  
1,403 programs

PA  
14,419 students  
\$13.1M  
38 programs

# President Bush's budget for FY 2006

- Increase Pell \$500 over 5 years
  - Average price in public 4-year went up \$500 *this year alone!*
- Increase loan limits
  - First year: \$2,625 → \$3,500
  - Second year: \$3,500 → \$4,500
  - Total undergrad: \$23,000 → \$24,875
- Change formula for campus-based aid

## Recent updates

- Senate: Restored funding for TRIO and Gear Up in March
- House?

# Key issues facing Congress

- College costs
- Student aid
- Quality and accountability – effective use of federal funds
- Reducing “red tape”
- Teacher preparation

Anything else the Congress decides

# Quality and accountability

- Following on the heels of NCLB
- Examination of the role of accreditation
- New mechanisms for ensuring accountability of higher education institutions
  - Avoid the SPRE disaster in 1992
  - Focus on graduation rates and other outcomes
- Institutional support for the status quo

# Demonstrating program effectiveness – what “works”

- Data
  - Gaps in college participation and attainment
  - TRIO/Gear Up participation
  - Impact on college attendance, attainment, etc.
- Formal evaluations
  - Mathematica – Upward Bound
  - The details often get lost

# Demonstrating program effectiveness – what “works”

- Anecdotes
  - Diploma mills
  - 60 Minutes and proprietary institutions
- “Champions”
  - Chakah Fattah and Gear Up
  - Ted Kennedy and Pell
  - TRIO and ? . . . .

# Resources

- Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee
  - <http://help.senate.gov>
- House Committee on Education and the Workforce
  - <http://edworkforce.house.gov>
- Department of Education reauthorization site
  - <http://wdcrobcolp01.ed.gov/CFAPPS/OPE/HEA/index.cfm>
- American Council on Education
  - <http://www.acenet.edu>
- My website
  - <http://www.personal.psu.edu/deh29>